SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 1287

By Finney L

A RESOLUTION to honor the memory of Walter S. Hendrix, Jr., of Jackson.

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly were greatly saddened to learn of the passing of Walter S. Hendrix, Jr.; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Hendrix was an exemplary public servant and consummate professional who worked assiduously to improve the quality of life for his fellow citizens in numerous capacities; and

WHEREAS, born on December 7, 1928, in Osceola, Arkansas, Walter Hendrix graduated from Osceola High School and Henderson State University, where he was highly regarded by his peers and achieved academic success while participating in many extracurricular activities, including serving as the editor of the student newspaper, pitcher for the varsity baseball team, and member of the Army ROTC; and

WHEREAS, possessing an unquenchable thirst for knowledge, Mr. Hendrix also completed graduate course work at the University of Texas at Austin; and

WHEREAS, Walter Hendrix bravely answered duty's call and served with honor as an Infantry officer in Europe and subsequently rendered sterling service in the Infantry and Special Forces units of the National Guard and Army Reserve, retiring as a Lieutenant Colonel; and

WHEREAS, a dedicated and conscientious public servant, Mr. Hendrix served with acumen and alacrity for forty-one years in the Social Security Administration, serving the last twenty-one years as the manager of the Jackson district office before taking his much deserved retirement in 1995; and

WHEREAS, an Eagle Scout, Walter Hendrix was also an active and important member of his community, and he served on countless boards and committees, including as the president of the Jackson Rotary Club, where he was named a Paul Harris Fellow and two-time Outstanding Rotarian of the Year, chairman of the Madison County Red Cross, a lay-pastoral

care volunteer for Jackson-Madison County General Hospital, chairman of the West Tennessee Central District of the Boy Scouts of America, Life Master Mason, and a member of the Scottish Rite and the Al Chymia Shrine, the United Way Public Service Division, Literacy Volunteers, and Youth Town of Tennessee Board; and

WHEREAS, throughout his distinguished career, this remarkable man garnered sixteen federal service awards and was cited in the United States Congressional Record for his broad federal and community service; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Hendrix was an active and devout member of the First Baptist Church in Jackson, where he faithfully served his Lord as deacon for many years; and

WHEREAS, Walter Hendrix was also deeply devoted to his family, and he always endeavored to remain true to family values of the highest order; and

WHEREAS, he was preceded in death by his parents, Walter S. Hendrix, Sr., and Rebecca Smith Hendrix; his sisters, Virginia Moss, Vera Erwin, and Becky Williams; and his brothers, Harold, Fred, Frank, Richard, Boyd, and Jon Hendrix; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Hendrix is survived by his beloved wife of fifty-three years, Marilyn; his children and their spouses, Mark and Karen Hendrix, Scott Hendrix, and Shan and Tony Whiston; his grandchildren, Grant and Blake Hendrix and Peyton and Palmer Whiston; and a host of friends, family, and loved ones; and

WHEREAS, Walter Hendrix leaves behind an indelible legacy of integrity and probity in public life, compassion and loyalty in private life, and diligence and dedication in all his chosen endeavors; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting that this General Assembly should pause to remember the bountiful life of this exceptional public servant and human being; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED SIXTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we honor the memory of Walter S. Hendrix, Jr., reflecting fondly upon his impeccable character and his stalwart commitment to living the examined life with courage and conviction.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we express our sympathy and offer our condolences to the family of Mr. Hendrix.

- 2 - 01923050

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.

- 3 - 01923050